

[mailed 12/16/86]

1.

Bob,

Once again another letter from you,  
good to hear from you.

I intend to be at the National Show in  
January on Saturday the number of the  
day I'm not certain. Joe Brzyzga, John  
Mead, Bill Kahler and myself will all  
go together.

I'm glad that the pedigree helped you.  
All of the stock birds that you have are  
from proven stock.

Six pairs to breed from is enough  
I would say. My suggestion is to  
breed a first round and then a  
later round that would be used for  
the fall flying season. You can  
either separate the pairs then re-  
mate for the late round or just  
remove the eggs after they've sat  
on them after 10-12 days. This I  
plan to do also in 1987. In 1986  
I had much too many tipplers to  
control with, many were spoiled  
due to this - there isn't enough time  
for them all!

Let the breeders prove themselves  
as producers of good stock, you needn't  
replace them unless you have produced  
something you consider to be superior.

2.

Maybe you want to make a closer family  
then you would consider 1986 birds to be  
used. Keep those that please you the  
most - hopefully the stronger flyers.

Unfortunately, the hawk are there and  
the weather is the weather. I would think  
that the hawkers tend to go after the lighter  
colored tipplers.

You're headed in the right direction  
with your kits flying 9:00 and 8:40. Before  
you know it you'll be well over the  
10 hour mark and think nothing of it.  
There are probably a few points that you  
need to get those birds over that. I  
suggest that you keep a log with the  
following info: - date - time of feeding -  
what grains, seeds - time of release, time droppin  
were released, time kit came down -  
weather - wind - how kit performed.  
All of this is useful, when you read what  
was done then you might be able to see  
the mistakes, etc. - Once the droppin  
are released - how long before the kit  
comes to the loft roof? With the 9 and 8  
hour flies, you might not have fed them  
late enough - 9-10 PM. Still those times  
aren't bad, you'll get the system down  
I'm sure. If I can help then let  
me know what it is you have questions of.